Remarks

Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the subject application. Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21 are pending.

35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,425,102 to Moy (hereinafter "Moy"). Note, the Office lists this rejection as a §102(b) rejection, but Applicant presumes arguendo that the Office intended §102(e). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 recites a method for use in a graphical user interface configured to support a login operation, the method comprising:

- displaying at least one user identifier prompt within a graphical user interface, the at least one user identifier prompt including at least one selectable user area operatively associated with a previously configured user capable of completing a login operation by inputting user password input;

- upon receiving user input selecting the at least one selectable user area, displaying at least one user input field within the graphical user interface, wherein the at least one user input field is automatically configured to operatively receive user password input associated with the login operation; and

- while conditions allow for the reception of the user password input and it is determined that there has been a failure to operatively receive the user password input for the login operation, then automatically *displaying reminder information associated with the user input field through a non-modal mechanism within the graphical user interface*.

Claim 9 recites a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for causing at least one processing unit to support a login operation by performing steps comprising:

- displaying at least one user identifier prompt within a graphical user interface, the at least one user identifier prompt including at least one selectable user area operatively associated with a previously configured user capable of completing a login operation by inputting user password input;

- upon receiving user input selecting the at least one selectable user area, displaying at least one user input field on the display within the graphical user interface, wherein the at least one user input field is automatically configured to operatively receive user password input associated with the login operation;

- determining if there has been a failure to operatively receive the user password input for the login operation while conditions allow for the reception of the user input; and

- automatically *displaying reminder information associated with the user input field through a non-modal mechanism within the graphical user interface* based on the failure to operatively receive the user password input.

Claim 17 recites an arrangement comprising:

- memory;

- a display device;

- a user input device; and

- a processor operatively coupled to the memory, the display device and the user input device, the processor being configured to:

  o display at least one user identifier prompt within a graphical user interface on the display device, the at least one user identifier prompt including at least one selectable user area operatively associated with a previously configured user capable of completing a login operation by inputting user password input;

  o receive user input selecting the at least one selectable user area, and in response display at least one user input field within the graphical user interface, wherein the at least one user input field is automatically configured to operatively receive user password input associated with the login operation;

  o determine if there has been a failure to operatively receive the user password input for the login operation while conditions allow for the reception of the user input; and

- o automatically *display reminder information associated with the user input field through a non-modal mechanism within the graphical user interface* based on the failure to operatively receive the user password input.

None of the submitted references, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest display of "reminder information associated with the user input field through a non-modal mechanism within the graphical user interface" as recited in Claims 1, 9 and 17.

The Office asserts Moy at column 6, lines 21-25 for disclosure of the above limitation, which is excerpted as follows:

> Means, responsive to said user failing to provide said password, for retrieving a first of said succession of hints from said hint storing means; and means for transmitting said retrieved first hint to a display device for display to said user.
> *Moy, Col. 6, Lines 21-25.*

Moy, in neither the above excerpted portion nor elsewhere in the reference, disclose, teach or suggest a non-modal mechanism.

In the Office Action Dated September 10, 2002, the Office asserted the following:

> Moy discloses automatically displaying reminder information associated with the user input filed within the graphical user interface (fig. 4), **but he does not disclose that being done through a non-modal mechanism.** *Office Action Dated September 10, 2002, Page 5 (emphasis added).*

Therefore the Office has previously acknowledged that Moy does not disclose, teach or suggest a non-modal mechanism. Accordingly, for at least this reason, Claims 1, 9 and 17 are allowable and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 5 depends directly from Claim 1, **Claim 13** depends directly from Claim 9, and **Claim 21** depends directly from Claim 17. Therefore, each of these

dependent claims is allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. These claims are also allowable for their own recited features which, in combination with those recited in respective Claims 1, 9 and 17 are neither shown nor suggested in the references of record, either singly or in combination with one another.

Conclusion

Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the subject application. If any issues remain that prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney before issuing a subsequent Action.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: _8/17/04_   By: _____
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